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EVERY DAY

NOVEMBER 15, 1919

SERIAL NO. 191

THE MENTOR

CUBA

By
W. D. MOFFAT
Editor of Mentor

DEPARTMENT OF
TRAVEL

VOLUME 7
NUMBER 19

TWENTY CENTS A COPY

CUBA OF TODAY AND TOMORROW



LL over the fertile Island modern methods and progress are pushing out the old-time, slow-going methods and conservatism, and, best of all, the old-time customs are giving way—not to a foreign invasion that will destroy the national character, language and traditions of a people—but to a rejuvenation, a transition and a newer, more liberal, brighter life brought about by the Cubans themselves for their own race and children.

Each year and month and day the common people are being educated, are becoming more intelligent, and are learning to improve conditions so that none can foresee or can begin to estimate what prosperity may be Cuba's in another twenty years.

With a soil unequaled in fertility, an ideal climate, health second to no land in the world, scenery that rivals that of California, and the great markets of America within three days of her doors, no country has a more brilliant prospect than the "Pearl of the Antilles."

A. HYATT VERRILL

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THE MENTOR - - DEPARTMENT OF TRAVEL
SERIAL NUMBER 191



VIEW OF THE YUMURI VALLEY FROM CUMBRE HILL, MATANZAS

C U B A

THE PEARL OF THE ANTILLES

By W. D. MOFFAT, *Editor of The Mentor*

MENTOR GRAVURES—WILD CUBA; ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CUBAN REPUBLIC; HAVANA; STREET IN SANTIAGO; MORRO CASTLE, HAVANA; CUBAN SUGAR PLANTATION.

Editor's Note: The pictures in this number are printed by arrangement with and courtesy of The United Railways of Havana, The Cuba Railroad, and Foster & Reynolds Co.

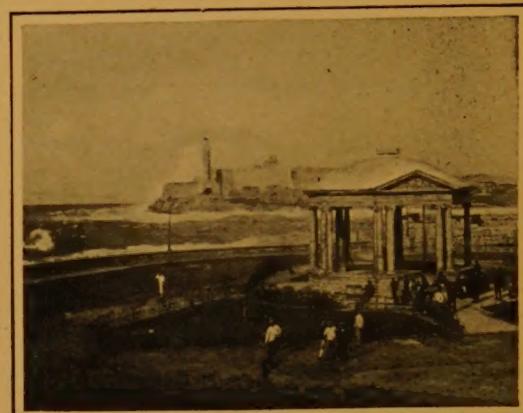


UBA is blazing bright at noonday. At that hour the Pearl of the Antilles declares herself a tropical island. In Northern countries noonday is heyday for work or pleasure. In Cuba it is a time for rest and quiet in cool retreats. Business begins in the early hours — at noon there is a lull. Then, about four o'clock in the afternoon, the real life of the day begins, when

there comes a refreshing breath from the sea and the cool evening breezes set in. From that time on, and until late at night, the hours are happy ones, with golden sunsets, and then a radiant moon or sparkling starlight. The most joyous and inspiring part of the Cuban day, however, is sunrise time — just before and just after. It is during the sunrise hour that our eyes first greet the shores of the land of the Royal Palm.

Our winter vacation has begun and we are out early on deck, eager for new sensations. The first delight is the beautiful blue water of the Caribbean Sea. On the surface of the Gulf Stream the nautili float in groups, each one glistening in the morning sunlight like a comb of spun glass and silver. A little girl next to us gazes down into the blue waves and exclaims, "This must be the water that the druggists use in the window bottles." By seven o'clock we turn the point where old Morro Castle stands and enter the Harbor of Havana. "Where did the Maine go down?" is the first question. A deckhand points out the spot. It is farther up in the harbor than we had supposed. The Maine had evidently anchored deep in the mouth of the enemy's port.

We land at the dock and, after a short delay in the Custom House, we are on our way to one of the hotels on Central Park. Hotel accommodations in Havana offer many interesting novelties. There is plenty of good food



HARBOR ENTRANCE, HAVANA
Showing Morro Castle opposite



SHOE VENDOR
Showing a typical grille window



LOOKING DOWN THE PRADO, HAVANA

— especially sea food and strange fruits — altogether new to American and European visitors. The Havana hotels were built for the tropics, and most of them are partly modernized survivors of former conditions. With the rapid yearly increase in tourist and commercial traffic, Havana calls for more hotels — fine, large, luxurious ones — and they are coming. One, under American management, is already under way. It is interesting to note American influences in

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architecture and building construction — especially in the residential parts of the city. The houses in the fine, new Vedado district are, for the most part, cream white in color, set in yards filled with tropical plants and royal palms, and they present an appearance familiar to American eyes — with porches, mahogany front doors and, in some cases, green shutters of American style instead of the Spanish iron grilles. Everywhere in Cuba, even in small towns, we find iron or wooden grilles, of ornamental design, before doors and windows. While giving privacy and protection, they permit a free circulation of air.

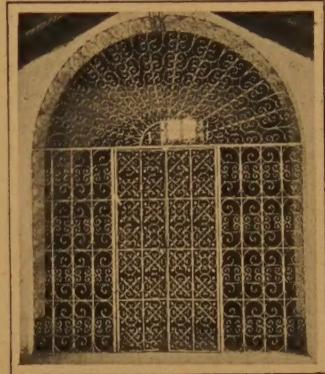
Havana Street Life

There is no trouble in getting about Havana. The trolley cars follow lines that the tourist desires, and, if he must turn to taxicabs, the fare is reasonable — twenty cents for one zone and twenty cents more for each additional zone. The streets of the old city are so narrow that the trolley can go but one way, and when a car is passing through a street, pedestrians must walk close to the walls on each side, for the pavement is rarely more than two feet wide, and, in some cases, only fourteen or fifteen inches, as I found by measurement. The conductors are polite and attentive to passengers. One of them, after I had thanked him

for his guidance, patted me benignly on the shoulder, smiled and wished me well in a soft Spanish sentence. I knew then that I was many miles from Broadway.

The important shopping streets of Havana are Obispo and O'Reilly, both of them narrow but attractive, with awnings shading them. San Rafael and Neptuno are also busy thoroughfares. There are a number of stores of the modern American type, with glass doors and glass windows. Some of these we recognize as Havana agencies of well-known American firms.

The genuine Spanish shop, however, is like the Spanish café — an open-air affair. The sidewalks of the wider streets are covered with arcades, which shield one from the heat of the sun. These not only give shade, but room for apartments above. Under these arcades the shops lie open during the day and one may wander in and out as freely as on the street. At night iron shutters are run down in front. The open-air cafés are a pleasing feature of Havana life. In his home the Cuban observes strict privacy, his family life being in the inner court or *patio* of his house. In the street, however, the Cuban lives, moves and has his meals before the eyes of all men. Dinner parties at



ORNAMENTAL DOOR GRILLE,
HAVANA



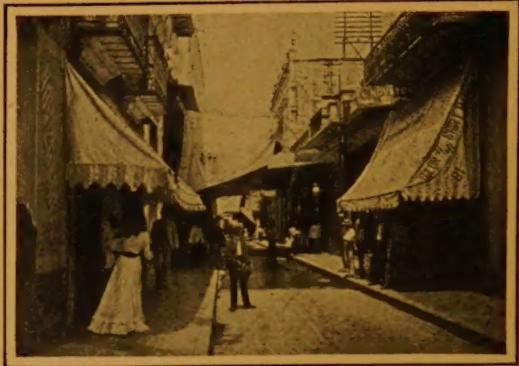
A MODERN HAVANA RESIDENCE



A VIEW OF THE MALECON, HAVANA
"Malecon" means "embankment" and is the name of the fashionable boulevard skirting the sea.

the best cafés may be seen seated just off the sidewalk.

Cuba is a land of straw hats and light-weight clothes the year around. The temperature is delightful, generally ranging from 75° to 90°, winter and summer. Visitors should be careful, for while the sun is very hot at certain hours of the day, the narrow streets that are continually in the shade are cool to chilliness. One should walk deliberately during the heat of the day and keep under the arcades. No one need walk any great distance in Havana, for, if there is no trolley, there is almost always an auto car in sight, "se aquila" (for hire). And how they run around Central

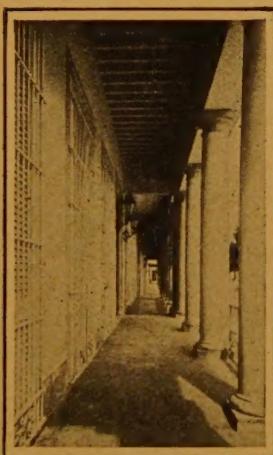


CALLE OBISPO (In English, "Bishop Street"), HAVANA

Park! They circle the square in countless numbers, "like troutlets in a pool." We wonder why they use up gas so recklessly, and we are told that they get business by keeping in motion.

There are plenty of beautiful drives. One, in particular, that no visitor should miss is the trip out through Vedado, past Almadares Heights, to Marianao Beach, a pleasure place with all the familiar features of popular seaside resorts. The Havana Country Club attracts many visitors. It is not far from Marianao Beach, and it offers fine club accommodations, with a well laid out golf course stretching over rolling ground, varied by winding brooks and crowned by royal palms. Near Marianao is Camp Columbia, of interest as the military home of the United States troops during the occupation of Cuba, and now the Cuban army barracks.

Another trip worth while may be taken by trolley to the hill, *Jesus del Monte*. From there the finest view of the city can be obtained. The race track and the baseball grounds draw great crowds—and so does the court where "Hili" (*Jai Alai*) is played. This game is the South American "Pelota" and is played with a rubber ball and a curved bat fastened to the arm. It is fast sport and uproariously exciting.



TYPICAL HAVANA COLONNADE



HAVANA'S HANDSOMEST CLUB AND THEATER

This beautiful building is the home of the Centro Gallego Club, and encloses the National Theater and a superb ballroom. It is situated on Central Park, and is the scene of some of Havana's most brilliant social affairs

Historic Buildings

In the city itself there is enough to keep one profitably engaged for several weeks. Go down first to the Plaza de Armas, at the foot of Obispo and O'Reilly streets. There is where Havana began, and where we will find many interesting things. Facing the Plaza is the old Palace of the President. A new Palace has been built on Monserrate Street. There is a drill at eleven o'clock each morning on the Plaza, which gives us an opportunity to study the types of soldiers that make up the Cuban army. As we scan the line we find faces black, brown, bronze, olive and white. There is the blood of the African, the Indian, the Spaniard, the French and the American. It is literally a "rainbow division," and they are all Cubans and equal in citizenship in this New Republic. Facing the President's Palace is the little building, *El Templete*, marking the spot where

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the first mass was offered by Spanish priests when Havana was founded in 1519. This tiny temple, which was built as a memorial, was dedicated in 1828. On the inside of the building are three paintings by the Spanish artist Escobar, illustrating episodes in the early history of Cuba.

Close by *El Templete* is the old Spanish fortress *La Fuerza*, perhaps the most interesting relic of Havana. It was begun, we are told, in 1538 and is fifty years older than Morro Castle. This takes us back to the time of Hernando De Soto. It was from that old castle that De Soto, in May, 1539, when Governor of Cuba, set out on the expedition in which he discovered the Mississippi. It was in that old fortress that Dona Isabel, de Soto's faithful wife, watched through the long years for the beloved husband who never returned. There she died of a broken heart. The fortress is now the headquarters of the army, the Commander-in-Chief having his offices in one part, the rest being given up to barracks. Just next to *La Fuerza*, and between the fortress and the President's Palace, is the Senate Building, an old structure, modernized inside and containing the Senate Chamber.

On leaving this interesting old square, we come, only two blocks away, upon a most venerable relic of ancient Havana, the Cathedral. This building, of native limestone, is a fine example of Spanish architecture, and the mellowing effect of years has added to its beauty. It was built by the Jesuits in 1704 and it contains a number of very old paintings and other interesting features. It has long been known as the "Columbus Cathedral" because, for over 100 years, it enshrined bones that were declared to be the remains of the Great Discoverer.

The street life of Havana is full of human interest, due to the close mingling of the people on the narrow thoroughfares, and the widely varied types of character to be found there in close association. Havana has its own peculiar street cries. The newsboys call out their papers in a sing-song; the fruit peddlers' cry sounds like "an-éet-tah banyáh-na"; the traffic police give orders in a rapid staccato like the snap of a whip; and, everywhere, all day long you hear the cry of the lottery ticket agents. There is a lottery every ten days. It is a feature of Cuban economy, for the Government takes a portion of the proceeds. They say that the lottery saves the people much in taxes, and gives them a full measure of the kind of excitement that they crave.

On the streets and in the hotels and the shops of Cuban cities we soon come to know the sound of one word—"oi-ga!" We hear it everywhere. The traffic police call "oi-ga!" The hotel clerk summons the bell-hop with "oi-ga!" A telephone is raised to the lips and the first word is "oi-ga!" Two friends meet on the street and exclaim "oi-ga!" Even the horns of the jitney cars squawk "oi-ga!" Without the word "oi-ga" Cuban activities might have to close down. It corresponds to the American street expression, "Say, listen!"

We see only a few women of the better class on the streets during the day—and few "matinée girls." Even on the occasion of funerals, the women do not leave the house—only the men follow the cortège to the cemetery. The important dramatic and musical affairs of Havana, of course,



THE STUDENTS' MEMORIAL, HAVANA
On Nov. 27th, 1871, there were sacrificed on this spot, by the Spanish, eight innocent young Cuban students falsely accused of having reflected on the character of a dead Spanish officer.



THE HAVANA GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB

draw the young society women from the seclusion of their homes, but such events seem few and far between to the visitor from any large American or European city. The chief entertainments of a theatrical sort are the "movies," and there are plenty of movie houses in the Cuban cities and towns. During the days of the carnival—which takes place in February—the young women and girls of Havana are to be seen in thousands on the streets and in the plazas. And how beautiful they are! If there are any Cuban women who do not possess a pair of eloquently appealing eyes, we have not seen them—and we have seen many in Havana, Santiago and other cities. The chief festival of home life in Cuba is Christmas Eve. It is essentially a home celebration, in which the family and friends gather together for Christmas greeting and festivity. It is called "Noche Buena," which means "good night!"—and it is well named.



PLAZA DE ARMAS, HAVANA

The building opposite is the old President's Palace, the one on the right, the Senate Building

home celebration, in which the family and friends gather together for Christmas greeting and festivity. It is called "Noche Buena," which means "good night!"—and it is well named.

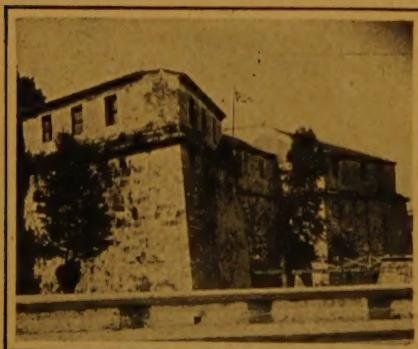
A Trip to Morro Castle



EL TEMPLETTE, HAVANA

The crowning event of a visit to Havana is a trip across the bay to the Fortress of Cabaña and Morro Castle. The necessary permit is obtained at the Army Headquarters, and we are attended by a handsome young lieutenant, who shows us over the ancient fortifications and tells us the story of the historic battles that took place there. We go through the gloomy old prison and gaze shudderingly into the black hole where unfortunate victims were cast down in darkness to the sea. We look upon the breach blown in the rock where the British entered and captured the Fortress in 1762. We climb the tower from whence they say that, on a clear day, one can see, with glasses, the coast of Key West. A part of the old fort has now been turned into a military school. There, in what might be called "Cuba's West Point," seventy-five cadets pursue a two-year course and graduate with the title of Lieutenant. A day spent at Morro Castle is one full of instruction, and you return to the city with an impression of Cuba's early history indelibly impressed on the mind.

Up on a hill—we might call it the "Acropolis of Havana"—stands the University, a cluster of imposing buildings, classic in style, looking out over the city. The visitor will find much to interest him there. The University is a national institution and co-educational. The courses are both cultural and practical. It is fully and adequately fitted out with the latest equipment in all its departments.



LA FUERZA, HAVANA

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THE MEMORIAL OF THE LAUREL DITCH

Set in the wall of Cabaña fortress, this memorial marks the spot where many patriotic Cubans were shot by arbitrary order of the Spanish. There is a row of bullet holes in the wall, nearly 100 feet long, called "the dead line."

We are off for a visit to Santiago, but before doing so we pay a flying visit to the Isle of Pines. It is a pleasant way to put in two or three days. A train trip to Batabano and a lovely night ride by boat across fifty miles of the Caribbean Sea takes us to Nueva Gerona. A day in an automobile gives us an interesting and illuminating impression of this productive little island. We see about us far-stretching groves of oranges, grapefruit, lime and the luscious pineapple. There is fine fishing there and many springs of mineral water, chiefly magnesia, the latter forming one of the principal items of export of the island. There are many settlers living in attractive bungalows, who have found occupation in fruit-growing and good health in the soft climate.

On the Way to Santiago

On leaving Havana our first stopping place is Matanzas, sixty-three miles distant, on the north coast. The town is beautifully situated on a harbor five miles in length and protected from the sea by a coral reef. The coloring of the water is superb—varying in tints from light green to indigo blue. We are told that the sea is even more brilliantly beautiful at Cardenas, where, on the sloping beach, one can wade a quarter of a mile from shore, through exquisite transparent colors so definite in hue that it seems as if they would stain the suits of bathers. Matanzas has the picturesque features characteristic of all old Spanish-Cuban cities—ancient churches, narrow streets and well-shaded plazas. It has also features of its own that give it distinction and make it one of the desirable objective points for the tourist. One is the hill that rises be-

Before leaving Havana there are several side trips that it is important to take. A profitable day can be spent with Dr. Mario Calvino, out at the Agricultural Station, picking strawberries and ripe oranges in February, and observing the experimental farm work being conducted there. A day should be spent also in looking over a great sugar mill. An electric train takes one down from Havana, in an hour, to the Providencia Mill, one of the largest near Havana. Another day or two should be devoted to visiting the tobacco country. Go down by train to Pinar del Rio, and ride around there in the very center of the richest tobacco-producing land. You will find it instructive. Cuba has been referred to as the "Sugar-Bowl" of the World." Statistics go to prove the truth of this expression. Sugar was Cuba's great contribution to the Allies during the war. It would also be true to call Cuba the "Tobacco-Pouch of the World." You may test the truth of these expressions by going first to the West from Havana to the great tobacco lands, and then going East through the rich sugar-cane country.

Isle of Pines



THE CATHEDRAL, HAVANA

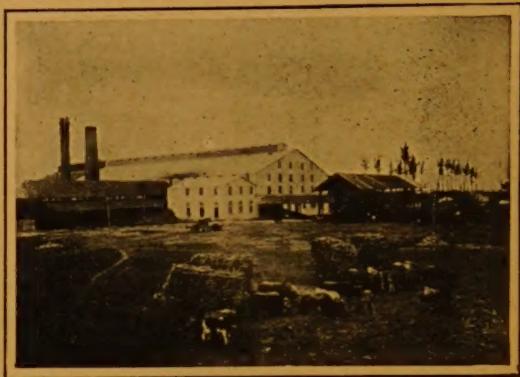
yond the town, called the *Cumbre*, on which stands the Monastery of Monserrate. From that point the Yumuri (Yoó-mur-ree) Valley stretches before one in a glorious scenic panorama. After leaving the hill, a visit should be made to the Caves of Bellamar, which are situated about one and a half miles from the other side of the town. This subterranean gallery, which was discovered accidentally, in 1861, by the slipping of a crowbar in the hands of a workman, is vast in extent and lined on all sides with beautiful crystal formations. There are many winding passages and spacious rooms, one of them called the Gothic Temple, being 250 feet long by 80 feet wide. Another day wandering about the old town and riding in the suburbs completes our impression of Matanzas and we are on the way to Santa Clara and Camaguey (Cam-ahg-way).

Santa Clara is comparatively modern, with well-equipped streets and fine buildings. It is a busy town and the capital of the province that produces 35% of all the sugar of Cuba. Camaguey is a city that visitors like to linger in. It is over 400 years old and looks its age. The streets are narrow and none of them parallel. They ramble about in an illogical way,

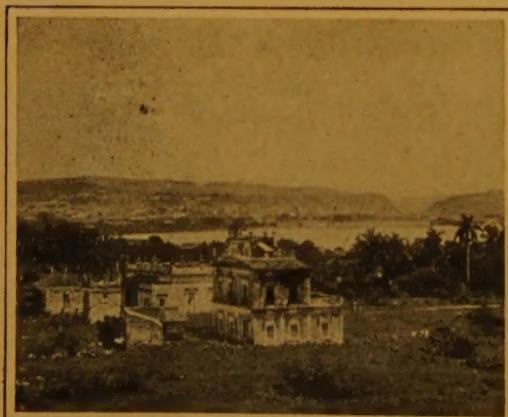
lined with low houses of the old Spanish type. Here we find wooden grilles instead of iron, venerable old churches, fluted tile roofs, and crumbling masonry. The feature of the town that appeals most to visitors is the picturesque old Hotel Camaguey. The building was originally a Spanish cavalry barracks, occupying, with its *patios*, or inner gardens, nearly five acres. Sir William Van Horne, the dominating genius of the Cuba Railroad, made the barracks over into an inn, the like of which is not to be found elsewhere in the world. The interior has been modernized so that the barrack-rooms have become bedrooms, the large halls have become parlors, dining-rooms and vestibules, the stable has become a kitchen, and the inner courts have become bowers of vines and flowering plants.

Just outside Camaguey stands a magnificent mansion built by Sir William Van Horne for his residence. Just before its completion the owner died, leaving the luxurious establishment in the hands of a caretaker. It is an imposing monument to the man who, more than any one else, built up the backbone of transportation through the island of Cuba.

From Camaguey we take the southern route, pausing at Bayamo, the birthplace of Estrada Palma, the first president of the New Republic, and the home of the Cuban National Hymn. The words and music of this composition were the creation of Pedro Figueredo, and it is called "The Bayamese Hymn."



GREAT SUGAR MILL AT PROVIDENCIA

BEAUTIFUL CENTRAL STATION
OF THE UNITED RAILWAYS
OF HAVANA

VIEW OF MATANZAS FROM THE EAST

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The scenery along the southern route offers a succession of vast sugar-cane plantations varied by pineapple and banana. The roadway is dotted with little towns and villages in which we get glimpses of simple Cuban peasant life. Here we find huts with thatched roofs, goats, swarms of dark-skinned children, and the ever-present dog. In the words of Josh Billings, no peasant in Cuba is "too poor to own one dog, and some are poor enough to own three." Poor as the peasants are, they are, at least, not burdened with tailors' bills, for their young children run nude—and "nature unadorned," in their case, seems to be quite proper. The youngsters are as simple and natural as little brown teddy-bears. At times we thread our way through tropical jungles seemingly too dense for man to penetrate. Here are mahogany trees, ceiba (say-bah), palm and pine trees, with limbs hanging low under the burden of countless orchids. The crowning beauty of Cuba is its profuse and plenteous growth of trees of many varied kinds. In and around Havana and other cities we remark the stately ceibas, the mango, the alamon, and, especially, the luxuriant laurel with its wealth of shade. Out in the wilderness the trees run riot in a thick and impenetrable tangle of vines, ferns and wild blooming plants. The saying goes in Cuba that "fence posts grow and trees walk"—which is literally true. The roads are lined with fence posts bearing branches in full leaf. Limbs of trees have been used for posts, and, in the rich soil and tropical climate of Cuba, they root and grow. The "walking tree" is a familiar object in the towns and cities, where it is often cultivated for its peculiarity. It throws down branches into the ground on the side toward the sun, and, by this process, it slowly but steadily advances across a garden or lawn.

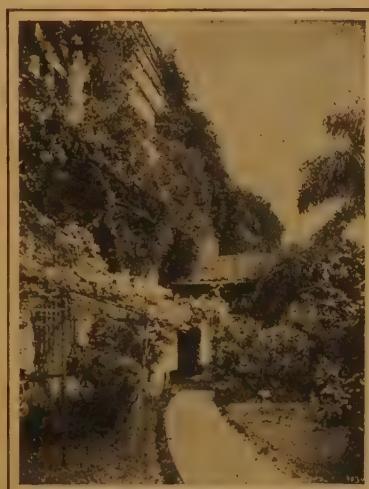
As we approach Santiago lofty mountains rear their heads to the clouds. Toward evening we begin to wind through deep valleys and finally, as the shadows fall, we draw into the old-time capital of Cuba.

Santiago

Santiago is truly and thoroughly Spanish. It has retained its original features and atmosphere, and it shows little of the American influences noticeable in Havana. We find here more color, more Cuban simplicity, and a softer speech. Even our familiar "oi-ga" sounds, in Santiago, more like "oy-ya." The old town is situated on an ideal harbor and encircled with lofty mountains. No one will ever forget the first view of Santiago from a point of advantage. Stand on the roof of the Casa Grande Hotel and you will be in the center of a magnificent panorama. Toward the south you catch a glimpse of the narrow harbor entrance where gloomy old Morro Castle broods on the rocks. Across the bay the mountains rise 7,000 feet and more. Stretching away toward the north and east they seem to hem the city in, protecting it. And out there, only a few miles, lies San Juan Hill and El Caney, where the cause of Cuba was fought out and Spanish rule in the Western Hemisphere was



PRIMITIVE DWELLINGS OF CUBAN PEASANTS



INNER COURT OF HOTEL CAMAGUEY

ended. Down below us lie the many-hued tiled-roofs of the town. It is a feast of color for the eyes of an artist. There is enough to delight and interest one in Santiago for many days. The town itself, with its queer old streets, which climb and descend the steep hills, offers picturesque points of view at every turn. The trip by water out to Morro Castle is one that will ever be remembered. You pass over the spot where the *Merrimac* sank, and you see the dungeon in which Hobson was imprisoned. As you gaze at the narrow entrance to the harbor, you see that if the *Merrimac* could have been sunk at exactly the right spot, Hobson's plan would have been realized, and the Spanish fleet would have been bottled up. Old Morro Castle is abandoned now and is simply a picturesque ruin.

The trip out to San Juan Hill and El Caney is full of historic interest, especially for American visitors. Through a little lane in El Caney one comes suddenly upon a view of the hill and ruined Spanish fort where Ludlow's Sixth Cavalry engaged in their bloody fight. It is hard to see how any men could have fought their way up the steep sides of that hill, in the face of heavy gunfire. Near San Juan Hill is the Peace Tree, a huge ceiba covered with bullet wounds. Underneath it, on stone bases, are set huge books of copper, wide open, and on the leaves are inscribed the names of those that paid the full price to free Cuba. All is so peaceful there now, in its rural simplicity, that it is hard for the mind to fill it with men bent on killing each other and equipped with all kinds of ugly things to do it with. A rooster crows, chickens cluck in the dusty road, goats bleat and chew tin cans in the old familiar way — and from these commonplace conditions we look out through the shabby little lane, and see the hill of El Caney, crowned with shattered fortifications that tell the story of the bitter conflict of '98. And, beyond and above it all are the towering mountains. No one, as far as I remember, ever spoke of the scenery in which that brief war was waged. Men were sternly engaged then. Today we note the superb scenic setting — the hills and valleys, and, encircling them, the beautiful blue ranges and pearly gray summits.



THE BONIATO ROAD, SANTIAGO

This beautiful road, leading from Santiago up over the mountains, was an engineering achievement of Gen. Leonard Wood



HOSPITAL STREET, SANTIAGO

For one who seeks scenery the most satisfying trip in Santiago is the ride out on the Boniato Road. This fine highway was built by General Leonard Wood, and it runs winding up over the mountains and down into the valley on the other side. In its day it was called "Wood's Folly," but all are proud of it now in Santiago, and no visit there is complete without the trip. At the highest point there is a rest house from which one of the finest views in Cuba is obtained.

The street life of Santiago is freer and easier than that of Havana. Folks are out and about a great deal. The old plaza tells the story. We are wakened by the clamor of bells from the Cathedral early in the



THE FATEFUL HILL AT EL CANEY



MONUMENTS ON SAN JUAN HILL

original old stock of some of the best Cuban men of high social standing who tell you, "My folks came from Trinidad," or they may say "Cienfuegos." Both cities are off the main lines of transportation, but they are, perhaps for that reason, more thoroughly Cuban in the original sense. Trinidad is, after Baracoa, the oldest city of Cuba. It sits picturesquely on the side of a mountain at an elevation of nearly 1,000 feet above the sea. It was at one time a busy port, but trade long ago left it for Santiago and Havana, and it settled down to a quiet life which its inhabitants share with many health-seeking visitors who go to Trinidad for rest and physical upbuilding. Cienfuegos is situated on the south coast about 195 miles from Havana. It lies on a beautiful bay which is one of the finest harbors in the world. It was founded in 1819 by Louis Clouet, a French planter from Louisiana, and it was named after General José Cienfuegos, at that time Governor of Cuba. It is a center of rich sugar-producing interests. It is worth while to visit Trinidad and Cienfuegos and other similar places to learn what Cuban life in a provincial city is like. To many, a visit to Cuba means simply Havana and thereabouts. No one can really come to know Cuba without going through that beautiful island from end to end.

morning, and, when we look out, we find the square occupied, for the most part, by mothers or nurses with children, taking the air. They have their way until business starts — then they disappear, and the streets are given over to merchants, laborers, peddlers and general wayfarers. Late in the afternoon, when the cool comes, the plaza is the assembling place for men who sit at leisure, smoking and talking. Then, in the evening, there is a band concert and the young people gather in the square and promenade. There is no better word to describe it than that. The older women sit on the benches; the young women and girls walk round and round the park, while the men and boys walk round the opposite way, and so the groups of young people continually pass and repass, meeting and greeting each other while the music plays. Finally the crowd melts away and the plaza settles down to the silence of night, with only a few homeless ones left, slumbering on the benches until another dawn breaks.

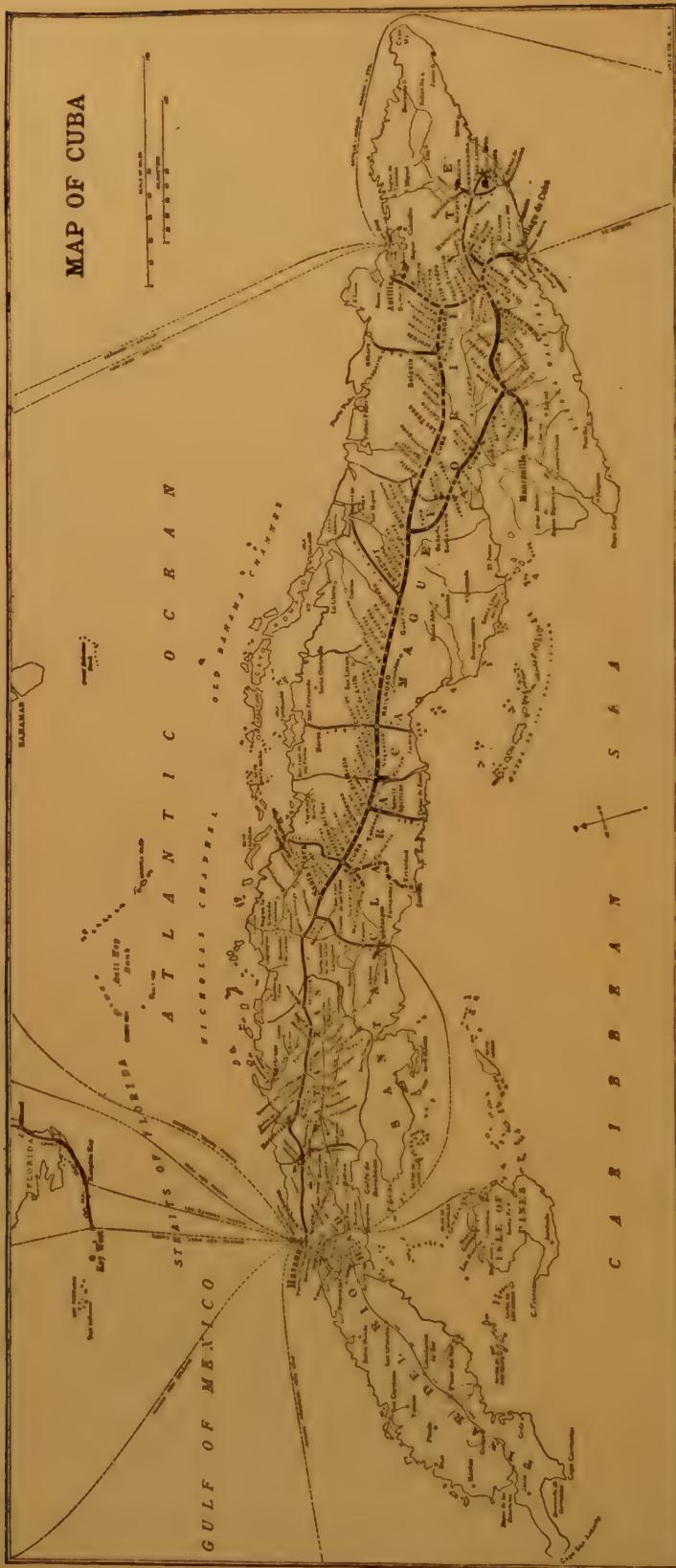
Trinidad and Cienfuegos

If one wants to know Cuba thoroughly, one should not leave without visiting Trinidad and Cienfuegos, for in those cities one will find the families. In Havana you meet, not infrequently, both cities are off the main lines of transportation, but they are, perhaps for that reason, more thoroughly Cuban in the original sense. Trinidad is, after Baracoa, the oldest city of Cuba. It sits picturesquely on the side of a mountain at an elevation of nearly 1,000 feet above the sea. It was at one time a busy port, but trade long ago left it for Santiago and Havana, and it settled down to a quiet life which its inhabitants share with many health-seeking visitors who go to Trinidad for rest and physical upbuilding. Cienfuegos is situated on the south coast about 195 miles from Havana. It lies on a beautiful bay which is one of the finest harbors in the world. It was founded in 1819 by Louis Clouet, a French planter from Louisiana, and it was named after General José Cienfuegos, at that time Governor of Cuba. It is a center of rich sugar-producing interests. It is worth while to visit Trinidad and Cienfuegos and other similar places to learn what Cuban life in a provincial city is like. To many, a visit to Cuba means simply Havana and thereabouts. No one can really come to know Cuba without going through that beautiful island from end to end.



MORRO CASTLE, SANTIAGO

This picturesque, ancient fortress broods on the heights over the entrance to Santiago Harbor



MAP OF CUBA

SUPPLEMENTARY READING ON THE SUBJECT OF CUBA AND ITS INTERESTS

- Cuba, Old and New. By A. G. Robinson. A Year from a Reporter's Notebook. By Richard Harding Davis
- Cruise of the Tomas Barrera. By J. B. Henderson, Jr. Cubans of Today. By W. B. Parker
- Early History of Cuba, 1492-1586. By I. A. Wright Sojourn in Cuba. In "Thousand-Mile Walk to the Gulf".
- To Cuba and Back. By R. H. Dana, Jr.
- Due South. By M. M. Ballou
- Standard Guide to Havana. By John Muir
- Charles Reynolds

*Note.—Information concerning the above books may be had on application to the Editor of *The Mentor*.*

CUBA was the first land on which Christopher Columbus set foot during that historic first voyage that opened up the Western Hemisphere. He landed on the north coast of Cuba, near Nuevitas, in October, 1492; and he believed that he had discovered a new continent until he was told by the Indians that it was an island. He took possession of the country in the name of the King of Spain and called it "Juana," in honor of Prince Juan, the son of King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella. Later he changed the name to "Fernandina"; then to "Santiago," Spain's patron saint; and, finally, to "Ave Maria," in honor of the Virgin Mary. But the name "Cuba"—a shorter form of the name used by the aboriginal Indians—clung to the island, and has come down to us through the years.

Columbus visited Cuba in 1494, on his second trip, and a third time in 1504. In 1511, a Spanish expedition landed and established the first settlement at Baracoa. In a few years followed settlements at Santiago, Trinidad, Camaguey Havana and elsewhere.

In 1537 Hernando de Soto was appointed governor of the island, an office that brought him trouble almost immediately, for in the year following, Havana was invaded and reduced to ashes by French privateers. To prevent a recurrence of similar disasters, de Soto constructed the Fortress La Fuerza, which still stands today opposite the Plaza de Armas and overlooking Havana Harbor.

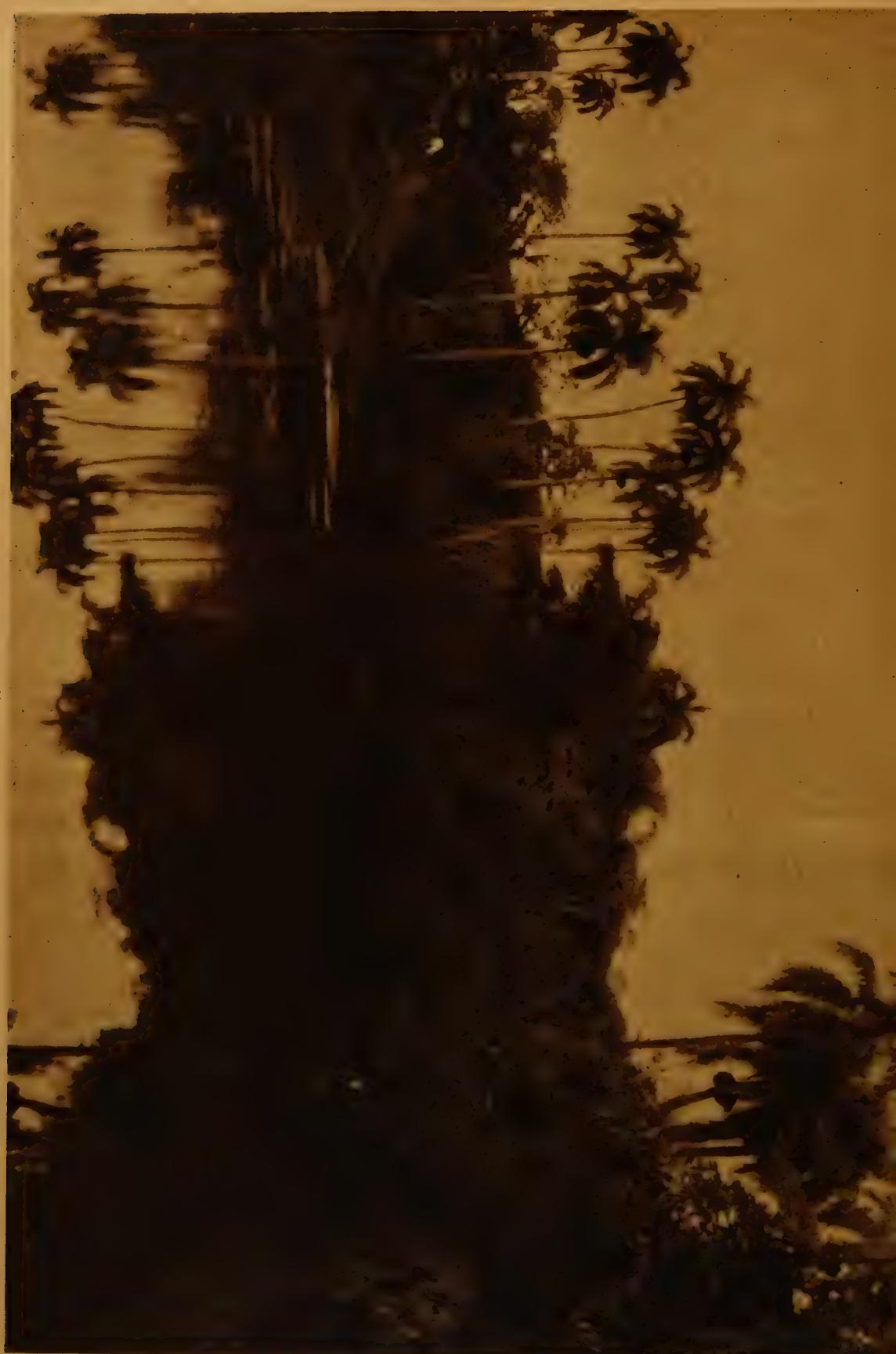
In 1554 the French again attacked and destroyed the city. Then the Spaniards built two strong fortresses—El Morro and La Punta—both of which may be seen today, Morro Fortress frowning from the heights on the opposite side of the harbor from Havana, and La Punta in picturesque ruins by the water's edge near the foot of Havana's great boulevard, the Prado. For some years the Spaniards managed to keep enemies at bay, but in 1762 an English fleet of 200 vessels and 15,000 men appeared one morning outside the harbor. For a month the Spaniards fought bravely to defend their home, but finally the British took possession of Morro Castle—then, by turning their guns on La Punta and La Fuerza, they forced the Spaniards to surrender. The expedition of the English was under the command of Admiral Pocock and Lord Albemarle, and it was an enterprise of plunder and loot, their spoil including ships, cargoes, cannon and ammunition, amounting to about \$3,700,000. The British held possession of Havana for a year: then it was restored to the Spaniards, and, for nearly a hundred years thereafter, it enjoyed great prosperity.

During the 19th century Cuba was governed by a succession of Captain-Generals who wielded a despotic power that was almost absolute. Most of these military rulers were tyrannical and overbearing,

and their cruelty frequently incited the Cubans to rebellion. These insurrections were suppressed with inhuman brutality, but the very measures taken to break the spirit of the revolutionists hastened the end of Spanish rule. The shockingly savage measures of General Weyler, the Spanish military commander during the last insurrection (1895-1898), drew the attention of the whole civilized world to suffering Cuba.

During the years American interest in Cuba grew stronger and more assertive, while the attitude of invitation on the part of insurgent elements in the island became more appealing. Spain retorted by obstinate and bitter obstruction of American interests in Cuba. When, therefore, in 1895 the final revolt came under the insurgent Generals Gomez, Maceo and Garcia, the United States was ready to help, and assurances of sympathy and support were sent by President McKinley through the agency of Lieutenant Rowan, who performed that heroic service known to the world as "Carrying the message to Garcia."

In February, 1898, the battleship *Maine*, under Captain Charles D. Sigsbee, was ordered to Havana to afford protection for American citizens in case trouble should threaten them. The *Maine* was a second-class battleship and was manned by 26 officers and a crew of 328. At 9:40 on the night of February 16th, the ship was blown up by an explosion, which subsequent inquiry proved to have been from the outside. The total number of those killed was 267, Captain Sigsbee and a few others not being on the vessel at the time of the explosion. The mystery of the destruction of the *Maine* has never been cleared up, but Spain was held accountable, and the legend "Remember the *Maine*" incited and animated the fighting spirits of the United States navy men during the succeeding months when, after war was declared, they swept the Spanish Navy from the surface of the Caribbean Sea and gave to Cuba the independence that she had so long and bravely fought for. For two years the United States maintained the attitude of guardian director of the island, and Cuba's affairs were administered by the U. S. War Department under the wise and efficient direction of General Leonard Wood. On May 20, 1902, the United States formally withdrew from the island, and Cuba chose its first president—T. Estrada Palma, a Cuban patriot statesman of fine quality. With his administration the story of the Republic of Cuba began.



THE Constitution of Cuba declares the Cuban people to be independent and sovereign, and it adopts the Republican form of Government. It states that the Republic is composed of the Island of Cuba and adjacent islands and Keys which had been under the sovereignty of Spain. The territory of the island is divided into six

provinces: Pinar del Rio, Havana, Matanzas, Santa Clara, Camaguey and Oriente. Cuban citizenship can be acquired in two ways—by birth or by naturalization. According to the Constitution, naturalization was granted to foreigners who had served in the Army of Liberation, or who were residents of Cuba and claimed Cuban citizenship within six months after the making of the law. All Cubans are equal before the law. Individual rights, civil and political, are recognized in the new republic, as in all civilized countries, and are defined and guaranteed by the Cuban Constitution in the most ample and efficient form.

The Government is modeled after that of the United States. The sovereignty resides with the people, and though the more ignorant classes have, as yet, little comprehension of the rights, privileges and duties of citizenship, the body of intelligent voters is growing rapidly. Election methods and processes are, however, far from what they should be, and the responsibility for the evils lies at the door of both parties—the Conservatives and the Liberals. So many dead men have been counted in the votes at elections that the saying goes in Cuban politics, "a dead man is a live asset." The election laws however, have recently undergone a course of revision, and it is expected that abuses will be corrected and evils remedied.

The Government is vested in three powers—Executive, Legislative and Judiciary. The Executive power is the President of the Republic, and it is necessary for him to be a Cuban by birth or naturalization—in the latter case he must have served Cuba with arms in the Wars of Independence. The President and Vice-president are elected for a term of four years, and may be re-elected once but *not* a second time. To help the President in the fulfilment of his office, the Constitution provided a Cabinet consisting of Secretaries of Executive, State, Justice, Interior, Treasury, Public Works, Education, Agriculture, Commerce and Labor, Sanitation and Charities, and War and Navy.

The Legislative is made up, as in the United States, of the House of Representatives and the Senate, which conjointly are called Congress. The Senate is composed of four senators from each province,

elected for a period of eight years by their home provincial council. Besides its usual legislative functions, the Senate has the right to pass on the President's appointment of magistrates of the Supreme Court, and diplomatic and consular representatives. The House of Representatives is formed by a representative for each 25,000 inhabitants, and the members are elected for a period of four years. Half of its members are elected every two years. The Congress meets twice annually—in April and November.

The Judiciary is composed of a Supreme Court of Justice, one Superior Court for each province, and other courts determined by laws which regulate their organizations and privileges. The national territory is divided into provinces and municipalities, each province being made up of the municipalities comprised within its boundaries. In each province there is a Governor and a Provincial Counsellor elected by direct vote. The municipalities are governed by a Board of Aldermen and a Mayor, elected by direct vote. The Constitution cannot be changed except with the consent and agreement of two-thirds of the total number of each legislative body.

At the same time with the adoption of the Constitution, Cuba made her identity as a new republic known to the nations of the world by sending out consuls and establishing diplomatic relations. Such representation, both consular and diplomatic, is not as yet, of course, as wide as that of some of the larger countries, but the Republic of Cuba has actually established in foreign countries thirteen General Consulates, nineteen first-class Consulates, forty-nine second-class Consulates, fifty-one honorary Consulates, twenty-two Vice-Consulates, annexed to Legations and to General Consulates, and 111 Chancellors, rendering service in consular and diplomatic offices.

The diplomatic representation is naturally less numerous, but, at present, Cuba has nineteen Legations in charge of Extraordinary Envoys and three Legations in charge of Resident Ministers. This is a most important department of service, for Cuba's commerce with the world in sugar, tobacco and other products is so enormous that it is vital to her to have adequate international relations established.

CELEBRATION OF FOURTEENTH ANNIVERSARY OF ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CUBAN REPUBLIC (MAY 20TH, 1916)



TWO years after the death of Columbus, King Ferdinand of Spain commissioned Sebastian D. Ocampo to explore the whole coast of Cuba. He sailed completely round the island and determined its character and outline. In the course of this trip he ran into a harbor for shelter, also to careen his vessels and make them water-tight with pitch. He named the harbor "Puerto de Carenas," or "Port of Careening."

Such was the discovery of Havana Harbor. The guardian spirit of Havana was, at first, a restless one—moving no less than three times before finding a permanent resting place. In 1518 Diego de Velasquez established at the mouth of the Guines River, on the south coast of Cuba, at a spot about where Batabano now stands, a settlement which he named San Cristobal del Abana. The little colony moved, later on, to the north coast and settled for a time at a spot known as Chorrera. Another and final move was made to the harbor of "Puerta de Carenas" where Havana now stands.

The first settlement was made on the water front near the Plaza de Armas. There, under a stately ceiba (say-ba) tree, the priests celebrated mass. As late as 1755, a historian tells us, the original ceiba was still in full bloom, at an age reckoned at 400 years. Today the spot is marked by a beautiful little building called El Templete, and, in front of it, stands a ceiba tree which is said to have grown from a slip of the original ceiba.

From the very first the city of Havana was subject to invasions and assault by pirates and rovers of the high sea, and so the Spaniards began early to fortify their little town. The old Fort, "La Fuerza," was begun in the year 1538. Following a destructive attack by French privateers in 1554, the Spaniards constructed two other fortresses—"La Punta," at the mouth of the harbor, and Morro Castle, on the heights opposite; and, in 1665, they began to build a great wall around the city. For a number of years they managed to keep their enemies at bay, but in 1762 an English fleet of 200 vessels and 15,000 men, commanded by Lord Albemarle, appeared suddenly one morning outside the harbor. We have told, in another monograph, of the capture of Havana and the vast plunder that Albemarle carried away with him.

In 1552 Havana was made the capital of Cuba, and, with that distinction, the exclusive privilege of trading with foreign ports was conferred upon the city. The result of this was a great and rapid growth of commerce for Havana. Her beautiful harbor became a port for trading vessels from all parts of the world. A thousand ships entered there each year, and the port resounded with the tongues of many nations. Thousands of African slaves

were brought in to carry on agricultural operations that were set on foot after the British had taken possession. It was said that more than 400,000 slaves were brought to Cuba in the course of sixty years following the British invasion. The influence and effect of this on Cuban population was soon made manifest and its effect was far-reaching. Many native Cubans of today carry the blood of the African refined by generations of development.

For nearly a century after Albemarle's expedition the Spaniards enjoyed prosperity and immunity from invasion, and, during these years, Havana grew in population and commercial importance. It suffered very little from the revolutions that wracked Cuba during the last fifty years.

Havana was the headquarters of government during the American invasion, and the city shows in a more marked degree the improvements and reforms instituted by the American direction than any other city in the island. Havana today has a population of about 400,000 and it is marked by strangely contrasted conditions. The older part of the city, which was originally surrounded by the wall, has the characteristics of an ancient Latin town. The streets are narrow and crooked, and, up until the time of General Brooks' administration, they were unclean and unhealthy. Today we find these streets decently cared for and in a sanitary condition. From the narrow and picturesque thoroughfares of the old town the transition to a modern, handsome city is strikingly sudden. Within the distance of a single block one steps from the 16th century into the 20th century, and finds himself on broad, beautiful boulevards and picturesque plazas that would do credit to any of the modern cities of the world. If one would grasp the history of Havana within a single hour, let him gaze first on El Templete and La Fuerza, then walk up Obispo or O'Reilly Streets to Central Park, where the hotels and modern buildings begin. Let him then walk down the beautiful, tree-shaded Prado to the Malecon, then, following up the Malecon to the fine, new residential district, Vedado, let him finally take his stand on University Hill, whence he can get, if one sweeping view, the whole panorama of the city. Before him he will find Havana past and present.



COLUMBUS was the discoverer of Cuba, Velazquez was the pioneer settler. We read in the "Journals of Columbus During His First Voyage" that when he had explored the north coast of Cuba he was so attracted by the beauty and freshness of the land and so ambitious to complete the work he had undertaken that he continued along the shore until he found a pleasing harbor at the east end of the island. This he named "Puerto Santo"—afterwards, "Puerto de Baracoa." Nineteen years later Diego de Velazquez, under order from Diego Columbus, son of the Great Discoverer, came to Baracoa, and there, in 1511, he founded the first town on the island. This was the beginning of Spanish rule in Cuba. A cathedral was built in 1518 and a mass was celebrated by Las Casas, a pious and benevolent missionary. From Baracoa, Velazquez set out to explore other parts of the island, and to subjugate the natives to Spanish rule. It was on one of these expeditions, in the year 1514, that he founded Santiago, at a spot situated on the south coast, about one hundred miles from the eastern end of the island. In its situation Santiago offered rare advantages to any community seeking a safely sheltered seaport. The approach is through a harbor entrance only 180 yards wide, guarded on each side by steep cliffs. On the heights on one side, the now historic fortress Morro Castle, was erected. The harbor itself opens out into a beautiful sheet of water surrounded by high mountains. It did not take Velazquez long to decide that Santiago should be the capital city of Cuba rather than Baracoa. Its splendid bay and easy communication with other settlements gave it importance from the start. It was from Santiago that Hernando Cortez set out upon his historic expeditions in 1518. The city grew fast in population and activity, and, in 1522, its church was made the Cathedral of the island, Baracoa losing that distinction. It was its very activity that became, finally, its undoing, as the city of first importance in Cuba. The military expeditions and exploring enterprises had, by 1550, made a drain on its population, and had turned attention to other settlements. Then bitter conflicts amongst the civil, military and ecclesiastical elements in the town drove some people away and produced a demoralizing effect on others. In 1553 Santiago was occupied and plundered by the French. As the growth and development of Santiago slackened, that of Havana progressed, and, in 1589, the capital of the island was transferred to Havana.

Santiago's fortunes varied through the years, sometimes stimulated into flourishing activity by a wave of immigration, at other times retrograding in industry and productiveness. In 1662 it suffered from a British invasion from Jamaica. From 1607 until 1826 the island of Cuba was divided into two departments and Santiago was the capital of the eastern department

under the direction of a governor, who was responsible to the Spanish Crown. After 1826 Santiago was simply the capital of its own province. Commerce increased or languished, according to the impulse given to it by the influx of refugees and other immigrants. Coffee and sugar plantations were numerous, and there was some trade in cattle and hides. Rich copper and iron mines were opened up near the city. The mines at Cobre, nine miles distant from Santiago, still yield large supplies of copper.

The climate during the summer months is oppressive on account of the mountain heights that shut off the breezes from the east. When, therefore, the military activities of the Spanish-American War centered at Santiago, the United States troops were subjected to a most trying test—due to the July heat and the natural difficulties that faced an invading force. No advance on the city could be made over the great mountain heights. The harbor was guarded by its narrow mouth and the Spanish fleet that lay within. The American forces could approach only by way of the shore at Siboney, (si'-bo-nay) and Daiquiri (dei-kuh-ree), and make advances through the narrow defiles between the hills.

All the low hills were guarded by stone forts and block houses. The fighting, therefore, was a series of fierce and bloody engagements, short in duration but grimly decisive. One by one the hills were swept clear of the Spaniards. The fort at El Caney was taken at a great cost, and then victory was assured by the assault and capture of San Juan Hill, which lies close to the city. The engagements of the first three days of July, 1898, settled the war. Admiral Cervera's fleet sailed out of the harbor on July 3rd and was destroyed by the American fleet awaiting it. The land siege of Santiago, which began on July 1st, ended in two weeks, and, on July 17th, out near San Juan Hill, under a ceiba tree, General Shafter, commander of the United States forces, received, from General Toral, the surrender of the old city. This ended Spanish rule in Cuba, brought freedom to the oppressed people, and led to the establishment of a New Republic.

With the departure of the Spaniard, and the inauguration of a new regime, Santiago began, quickly, to improve. As a result of a new order of things, the streets are today clean and hygienic, and Santiago is, in population and commercial activity, the second city in the island. In beauty of situation and picturesqueness of features it is unexcelled by any other Cuban city.



A STREET IN SANTIAGO - : SIERRA MAESTRA MOUNTAINS IN THE DISTANCE

CUBA maintains nearly 2,700,000 people, and the prosperity of many of them and the comfort and contentment of a large majority of the others offer the best evidence of the efficiency of the national institutions under which the inhabitants live, move and have their being. In the few years since she became a Republic,

Cuba has accomplished much in education, fine arts, health, public works and charities. She has in her Government a Department of Public Instruction and Fine Arts, divided into two sections—the first having charge of primary education and controlling the elementary public schools, the second superintending the normal and high schools, the National University of Cuba, the School of Arts and Crafts, the School of Painting and Sculpture, the National Conservatory of Music and Declamation, the Public Libraries, and the Astronomical Observatory. The Cuban Nation has a budget of over \$10,000,000 for public education. There are at present 5,000 primary schools and 5,300 teachers. Each of the six provinces has a high school, while four provinces have normal schools. The programs of the schools are modern and follow the systems of public instruction that prevail in the United States. The teachers are paid salaries ranging from \$65 to \$115 or more per month. Besides the regular school courses, Cuban children receive special teaching in kindergarten. There are also private schools, and "home schools," the latter teaching domestic science, arts and economy.

The crowning institution of education in Cuba is, naturally, the University of Havana, commonly called the National University. Here there are nearly 1,600 students receiving scientific and technical instruction. The University directs its own affairs in matters of interior management, but, in other respects, it has the supervision of the Department of Public Instruction and Fine Arts, and receives therefrom an appropriation of more than half a million dollars yearly for expenses.

For the care of health Cuba has also a special government department which, with a competent corps of physicians, supervises quarantine matters and hygienic conditions throughout the country. It maintains dispensaries and a sanitarium for tuberculosis; it regulates drug stores, inspects schools, and attends to street cleaning—the latter service, at least, in the city of Havana. There is little street cleaning done in the smaller cities and towns of Cuba. The Cuban towns, though in many cases highly picturesque, are not inviting to the fastidious visitor. Vital statistics, however, mean more than travel impressions, and it is only just to say that the mortality rate shows that Cuba is one of the healthiest countries in the world. This is due largely to the equable climate, and the rigid

course of hygienic work that was inaugurated under the American occupation, and of which Major-General W. C. Gorgas, was directing head. After the sanitary work was well advanced, a splendid campaign against contagious diseases was carried out by General J. R. Kean, Major Reed, Doctors James Carroll, Aristides Agramonte, and Jesse W. Lazear. As a result, Cuba is today rid of yellow fever and other epidemics.

There are many well equipped hospitals in Havana and other large cities of Cuba—some being Government institutions, others private sanitariums, and all of them thoroughly modern in their appointments and up to date in methods. Several of the fashionable social clubs of Havana have special hospitals of their own, in the suburbs, for the exclusive use of members.

Banking, in a modern sense, was almost unknown in Spanish Cuba. Today there are several substantial national banking institutions and branch organizations of some of the great banking houses of the world, such as the National City Bank of New York, and the Bank of Canada.

Facilities for transportation and communication are, in the main, satisfactory on the island. Through the enterprise and energy of Sir William Van Horne and the men at the head of the United Havana Railroads, Cuba has an excellent railroad system that runs like a spinal column through the center of the island almost from end to end, and from this main line run branches, like fish bones, to the cities and towns of importance along the north and south shores. The telegraph service is extensive. There are 652 post and telegraph offices, and nearly 17,000 telephones in operation.

Cuba is well policed. Her military organization, though not imposing from the point of view of larger nations, is sufficient to safeguard the island and maintain discipline among the inhabitants. The regular peace army consists of about 17,000 enlisted men and 600 officers, including a rural guard of 6,000 men scattered in small detachments over the island. The officers of the army receive their training in a military school established in the old Fortress of Morro Castle, Havana.

To develop her natural wealth and growing commerce, constructive men of business and of the professions, engineers and experts, are devoting themselves zealously to study and investigations, the results of which are apparent in the rapid growth and substantial expansion of Cuba's national institutions.

FORTRESS OF MORRO CASTLE HAVANA -- NOW USED AS A MILITARY SCHOOL



CONSIDER an island about the size of the State of Pennsylvania, beginning its independent career in 1902 with no cash capital and little credit, with no experience in governmental affairs, looked on by the outside world with doubt, noted as a hot-bed of revolutions, and, only recently, free from a half dozen deadly diseases, inhabited by a war-ruined and poverty stricken population of less than two millions, many of whom could neither read nor write—and you will have an approximately correct picture of Cuba at the time of her birth as a nation on May 20, 1902." So writes George Reno, Chief of the Bureau of Information of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce and Labor, of Cuba.

Today, he tells us, this little island has won a prominent place in the world of commerce and industry. Her annual foreign commerce will exceed \$800,000,000. The value of her sugar crop exceeds this year, \$500,000,000; her tobacco crop \$50,000,000. Her mines of copper, iron and manganese will yield \$15,000,000. Her cattle, hides, hard-woods, honey, fruits and vegetables will produce \$10,000,000. Her imports, most of which come from the United States, aggregate \$300,000,000. And all this with a present population of less than 3,000,000 inhabitants. Sugar, of course, is the leading item in Cuba's foreign commerce. The sugar trade received tremendous stimulation during the four years of the World's War. Sugar was Cuba's main contribution to the Allied cause. The railroad system built by Sir William Van Horne, and The Cuba Company, made it possible to build up the sugar industry at a rapid rate and to meet all the demands of wartime by prompt and ample transportation service. Cuba has now more than 200 large sugar mills in operation, and the crop for the present year totals about 400,000,000 tons of sugar. Tobacco, next to sugar, is the chief article of export. Of the annual output, two-thirds is taken by the United States and Europe, the remainder being consumed in the country. The tobacco crop has the greatest value per acre of anything that comes from the soil. This is due largely to the fact that very little attention is given in Cuba to other than the high and expensive grades of the "smokers' pride."

Among the chief sources of Cuba's future wealth the raising of live stock will undoubtedly take a very prominent and profitable place. The great, rolling plains of the center of the island invite cattle

breeders, and the native grasses are good for pasture. During the war of 1898 the cattle of Cuba were almost entirely consumed by the various armies. With the restoration of peace, in 1900, the importation of cattle began, and today there are over 4,000,000 head of fine thoroughbred cattle registered in the Department of Agriculture. Similar conditions prevail in regard to other live stock. Hogs and goats abound, and even sheep are to be found in considerable quantity.

No visitor to Cuba need be told that the island is the native home of many delicious fruits. The land fairly flows with the milk and butter of cocoanut and the juices of pineapple, orange and a score or more luscious tropical fruits. The banana is to be found everywhere. It is the poor man's staff of life. Many a humble peasant finds his living on a small patch of bananas—supplemented, perhaps, by a few sweet potatoes. Of fruits it may be said that Cuba has enough and more, and a quantity to spare. The choice ripe strawberry, and the red Spanish pine are often left in the fields to rot, for there is no market for them. A few canning factories in this rich land would make a fortune for someone.

There are some 200 different varieties of splendid hard-woods growing in the great dense forests of Cuba. Mahogany and cedar are standard articles of export, but there are scores of others whose names are only known to botanists—rare and strikingly beautiful woods that take a handsome polish. Another mine of wealth is to be found in the tropical seas that wash the coasts of Cuba, all teeming with fish—red snapper, tarpon, Spanish mackerel, pompano, barracuda, lobster, crab, salt-water shrimp, and innumerable other varieties of edible sea foods. Beneath the surface of the island lie mineral resources, including several of the valuable and standard ores, such as gold, copper, iron, manganese, chrome and lead. Asphalt and petroleum are also to be found. These resources are now in course of being explored and exploited by geologists, topographical engineers and capitalists. Cuba's present products and rich undeveloped resources give promise of steadily increasing prosperity.

A CUBAN SUGAR PLANTATION -- LOADS OF SUGAR-CANE READY FOR THE MILL



SPOTLIGHTS on CUBA

THIS Island is approximately 760 miles long, with an area of 45,881 square miles, a trifle larger than Pennsylvania. Placed on the map of the United States, it would reach from the City of New York to Indianapolis, with an average width equal to that of New Jersey.

Cuba's seacoast is approximately 2,000 miles long, with more deep water harbors than any other country in the western hemisphere.

Cuba has 1,246 miles of shaded auto roads and driveways. Its range of temperature is 12° Fahrenheit. The January average temperature is 70°, July 82°. The extremes of temperature are 60° and 92°. The average rainfall is 54 inches, and the weather is dry in winter and showery in the summer.

CThe population of Cuba is 2,700,000. Havana, the largest city, has a population of 400,000. The yearly increase of the population in the island is about 90,000. Seventy per cent. of the population is white, 30% colored. There is an average yearly immigration to the island of 45,000. These figures of population give about 60 persons to the square mile.

CThe value of Cuba's foreign commerce is over \$700,000,000 a year. More merchandise enters and leaves the harbor of Havana in normal times than any other port in the western hemisphere, except New York. The exports and imports of the Island have both increased 100% in the last three years. Ninety per cent. of Cuba's imports come from the United States. The value of the 1918-19 sugar crop of Cuba was about \$500,000,000. The tobacco crop was valued at \$30,000,000. Citrus fruits, pineapples, vegetables, cacao and honey yielded \$4,000,000. Hard-woods and dye woods yielded \$1,000,000. Cattle and hides yielded \$3,000,000, and iron, copper manganese and asphalt yielded \$12,000,000.

CAll but 15% of Cuba's exports go to the United States. Produce is moved with speed and convenience from all parts of the Island. There are 2,600 miles of railroad and 250 miles of electric railways—and there are 32 steamers a week to the United States.

Cuba has silver and gold money of its own—but no paper money. United States paper money is in use all over the Island. Cuban gold and silver money is only a matter of about five years, and it is minted in the United States. The common coins of the country are the silver and nickel pieces. The 1c, 2c and 5c pieces are nickel. The 10c piece (called "un real") is silver, and so are the 20c piece (called "peseta"), the 40c piece, and the \$1 (called "peso"). The gold pieces are \$1, \$2.50, \$5, \$10 and \$20. The \$5 gold piece is the one most in circulation.

CStatistics show that Cuba is one of the healthiest countries in the world. The Pearl of the Antilles is healthy and wealthy—and growing wise.

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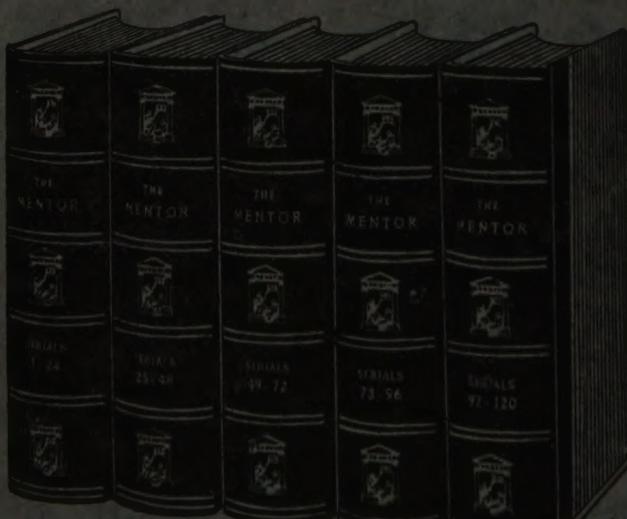
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